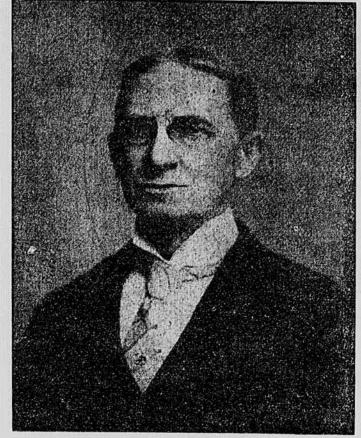
General Geo. H. Thomas's Attitude Towards the Secession of Virginia.

By W. GORDON M'CABE, Formerly Adjutant of Pegram's Artillery Battalion, A. N. V.

April 13, 1912.)

Itt seems scarcely necessary for to add any prefatory remarks to a article from the Saturday Review, Colonel McCabe. in this "Rejoin-r," has fully given the circumstances der which it was written. It may noticed, however, that Major John White, U. S. A. (retired), did not nture to attack any point in Colonel McCabe's military criticism of rmby's "Civil War in America," but voted nearly every line of his long iter to a denial of Colonel McCabe's section that both Thomas and Farsut (unlike Lee) were "rampant cessionists" until the very hour that irginia seceded. It seems to us that is "Rejoinder" (much of it as to e Second Cavairy being based on unbilabed records in the War Department) and the settle were settle to the settle were settle the decade in the War Department, and the settle were settle to the settle were settle to the settle were settle were settle to the settle were settle to the second Cavairy being based on unbilabed records in the War Department. ollahed records in the War Depart nt) should definitely state the omas question for all time, and in-entally "settle" Major J. C. White S. A. (Retired), at the same time.— note.]

characterizing



Thomas was a great soldier (far superior to Grant, in my opinion) and Farragut was a great soldier (and the perior to Grant, in my opinion) and discussion is involved as to their discussion is involved as to their ability and courage. But I stand by every word I wrote as to their experience of the course that the Major (who is a perfect entral the the Major (who is a perfect entral

bly never be known to historical students out the secrets of all hearts are revealed, for beyond the highly and selected the course their clated to them."

s briefest moment to note for (who is a perfect enough missing that a Virginian, whereas annessecan, may I be alimit out in the former of niences yet another illustation base that been an immemogenite(illustration) in the senier of the uneducated (the course from being an "enter the Registration of the uneducated (the claif course, "a West rose from being an "enter the Registration of the uneducated (the claif course, "a West rose from being an "enter the Registration of the undeducated men and work in the Radjor with a grave blunder and ends with a nonsensical illustration that such a lieu and for ourse, "a West fondness, I say, of universe for using "big words," anning they have not the The Major evidently "traduction" has somewith traducing people, will educated men and work with traducing people, all educated men and work in the Radjor evidently "traduction" has somewith traducing people, all educated men and work in the series of all hearts are revealed, for beyond the highly dent the writer ground the highly dent the writer of all educated men and work in the series of all hearts are revealed, for beyond the highly dent that writer with the writer of the writer was national that "the writer officers were leaving above) (Garfield's Works, i. 600). Now joint a was stationed at Fort Mason, whereas absolute ly nothing in his narrative that substitute that substantiates the Majors absurdly in accurate statements touching the promatical that substantiates the Majors absurdly in accurate statements touching the promatic that substantiates the Majors absurdly in accurate statements touching the promatic that substantiates the Majors absurdly in accurate statement touching the promatic that substantiates the Majors absurdly in the part of the 2nd Cavallation that substantiates the Majors absurdly in the part of the 2nd Cavallation that substantiates the Majors which he has lent bly never be known to historical studelicious. "The senior major," he says,

wick became lieutenant-colonel of Thomas's regiment (2d), when Lee was promoted colonel of "the First" (16 March, 1861), Thomas still remain-

March), and Thomas yonder in York, whilom "rampant Sece Sherman.

As to John Pope, the epithet of braggard was as consistently at the braggard was as consistently at the braggard was so consistently at the braggard was a consistent was one of Thomase and the braggard was a consistent was one of Thomase was a consistent was a consistent was one of Thomase was a consistent was a consistent was one of Thomase was a consistent was one of Thomase was a consistent wa

stream processes from the same of General Pope. They are the name of General Pope. They are the name of General Pope. They of the beak may be found were the name of General Pope. They of the beak may be found were the name of General Pope. They of the beak may be found were the name of General Pope. They of the beak may be found were the name of General Pope. They of the beak may be found were the name of General Pope. They of the beak may be found were the name of General Pope. They of the beak may be found were the name of General Pope. They of the beak may be found were the name of General Pope. They of the beak may be found were the name of General Pope. They of the beak may be found were the name of General Pope. They of the beak may be found were the name of General Pope. They of the beak may be found were the two that the form the pope. The pope. The pope is a name of the pope of the beak may be found were the found of the pope of the pope of the beak may be found were the pope of the beak may be found were the pope of the beak may be found were the pope of the pop of the beak may be found were the pop of the beak may be found which the found were the pop of the beak may be found which the found were the pop of the beak may be found were the pop of the



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the position had been filled—there was never any letter from Governor Letcher to Thomas, and how the Governor of Virginia could have "proffered him an appointment as Chief of Ordnance. Confederate States Army," is bewildering to any man of average intelligence. Had the Major been a trained officer, had he even read the letter in "Piatt" carefully, he would have been spared the mortification of the exposure of his colossal ignorance. Virginia had not yet seceeded, and was not destined to secede for more than a month, and her "State Forces" had nothing whatever to do with the "C. S. Army." Another objection, which will, no doubt, seem to the Major s silght one, is that the "C. S. Army" almost had a Chief of Ordnance.

count his chief characteristic. No sophistry can wriggle out of such a plain statement as this, and Platt's attempted explanation is so baidly absurd and futile that even his subservient disciple cannot swallow it, and so adopts the "Napoleonic" plan of not reproducing a line of it, and contents himself with characterizing it as "stern."

has been my second home, and it is my good fortune to know English officers captains in marching regiments, and
I put the question to these old friends
as to what would be thought of any
officer who thus practically suppresses
in a discussion a letter which is the
very "core of the matter," and contents himself with calling it "stern,"
when there is not a scintilla of sternness in it? When I was in the Army
of Northern Virginia it would have
been adjusted (in the language of the of Northern Virginia it would have been adjudged (in the language of the "Army Regulations"), certainly in the mess, if not by court-martial, "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman." Thomas was reared in the strict "States' rights school," favored slavery (which Lee did not), and even his biographer, Van Horne, allows that he was "more decidedly Southern in his sentiments than Lee" (p. 31). Both his brothers served in the Confederate army, and so did all his near kingmen. As for General Fitzhugh Lee's let-

ter, I speak "by the card" when say that he published it reluctantly.

knew him intimately English soldiers with scornful Homeric laughter. So this choleric Major, who soon became plumes himself upon referring to "official records to be known to (sic) all men" (yet never cites a single one in all his plethera of citations), prints named above, but snyakingly refers to "Platt, pp. 85 et seq." (sic) and capable officer, and urged his immediate appointment, and the seq. (sic) and the sinder to resist to resist and the seq. (sic) and the side to resist to resist and the seq. (sic) and the side to resist to resist and the seq. (sic) and the side to resist to resist and the seq. (sic) and the seq. (sic) and the side to resist to resist and the seq. (sic) and th

life-long friend of Thomalt was true that the latter as one of the most "States' rights" men in the own inclinations he would have joined the Confederates and fought against the North with the same ability and valor that he displayed in our cause." (p. 168). Mrs. Thomas says in her letter that this is "decidedly a mistake," and adds that she does not "think that they [Keyes and Thomas] met from the time that General Thomas went of Kentucky to join that army until they met in San Francisco." Here is the same confusion of mind as to the point at issue. We are not disto the point at issue. We ar tude was after he had joined the enemies of his native State, but his declared sympathies and purpose before he turned his back on Virginia in her hour of sorest need. The major has wandered beyond his "world" into that of his betters and has proved that there he knows nothing. He has ventured into the realm of "official records to be known to (sic) all men," and has

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